

BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLANS (BMAPS)

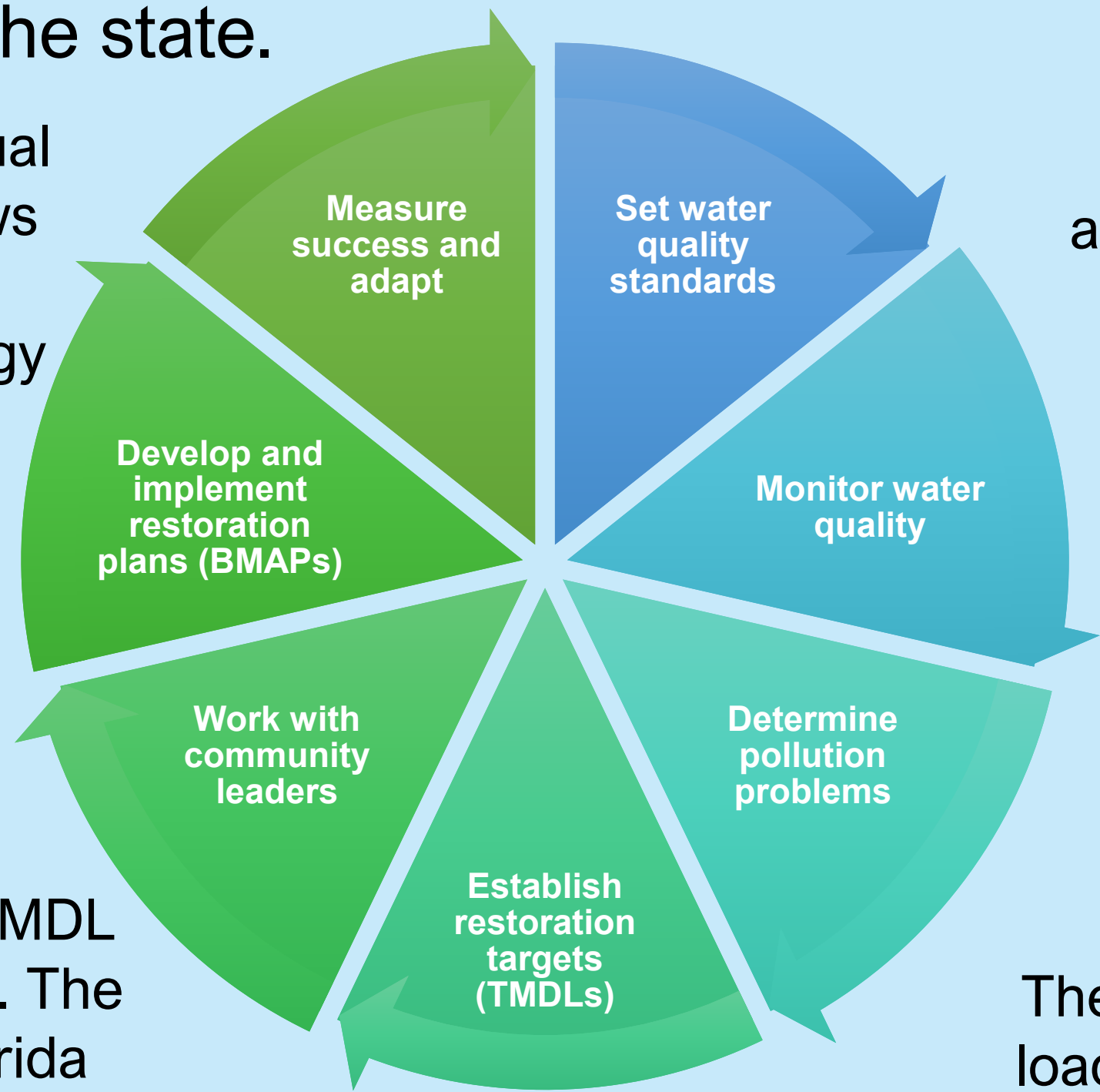
SOUTH FLORIDA BMAPS

Water Quality Restoration Cycle

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration (DEAR) monitors and assesses Florida's surface water and groundwater quality across the state.

The Statewide Annual Report (STAR) shows project and management strategy implementation progress made in BMAPs.

BMAPs address a TMDL for a given pollutant. The BMAPs in south Florida target nitrogen and phosphorus.



DEP and partner agencies maintain and expand water quality monitoring networks.

The total maximum daily load (TMDL) is the water quality target

Statutory Requirements

Authority and responsibility comes from several Florida Statutes (F.S.), with some highlights described below:

Florida Watershed Restoration Act (Section 403.067, F.S.)

- Cooperative implementation of plans to restore our waters, known as BMAPs.

Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (Section 373.4595, F.S.)

- Strengthens provisions for implementing the Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie BMAPs.
- Clarifies the roles and responsibilities, coordination, implementation and reporting efforts among DEP, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) and South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD).
- Includes five-, 10- and 15-year measurable milestones and targets to achieve the TMDLs addressed by the BMAPs. If achieving the TMDL within 20 years is not practicable, the implementation plan must include an explanation of the constraints that prevent achievement, an estimate of the time needed to achieve the TMDL, and additional five-year measurable milestones.

Clean Waterways Act (2020)

- Promotes resilient wastewater infrastructure and utilities and looks at future growth.
- Requires local governments within a BMAP to develop wastewater treatment plans and/or onsite sewage treatment and disposal system (OSTDS) remediation plans to be incorporated into BMAP updates.

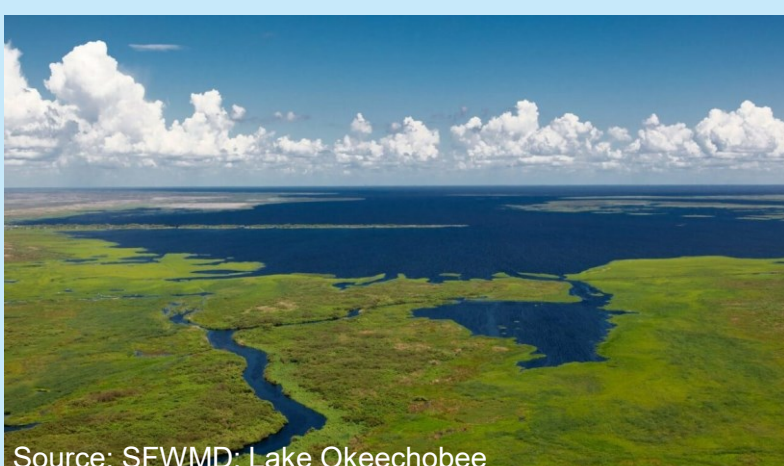
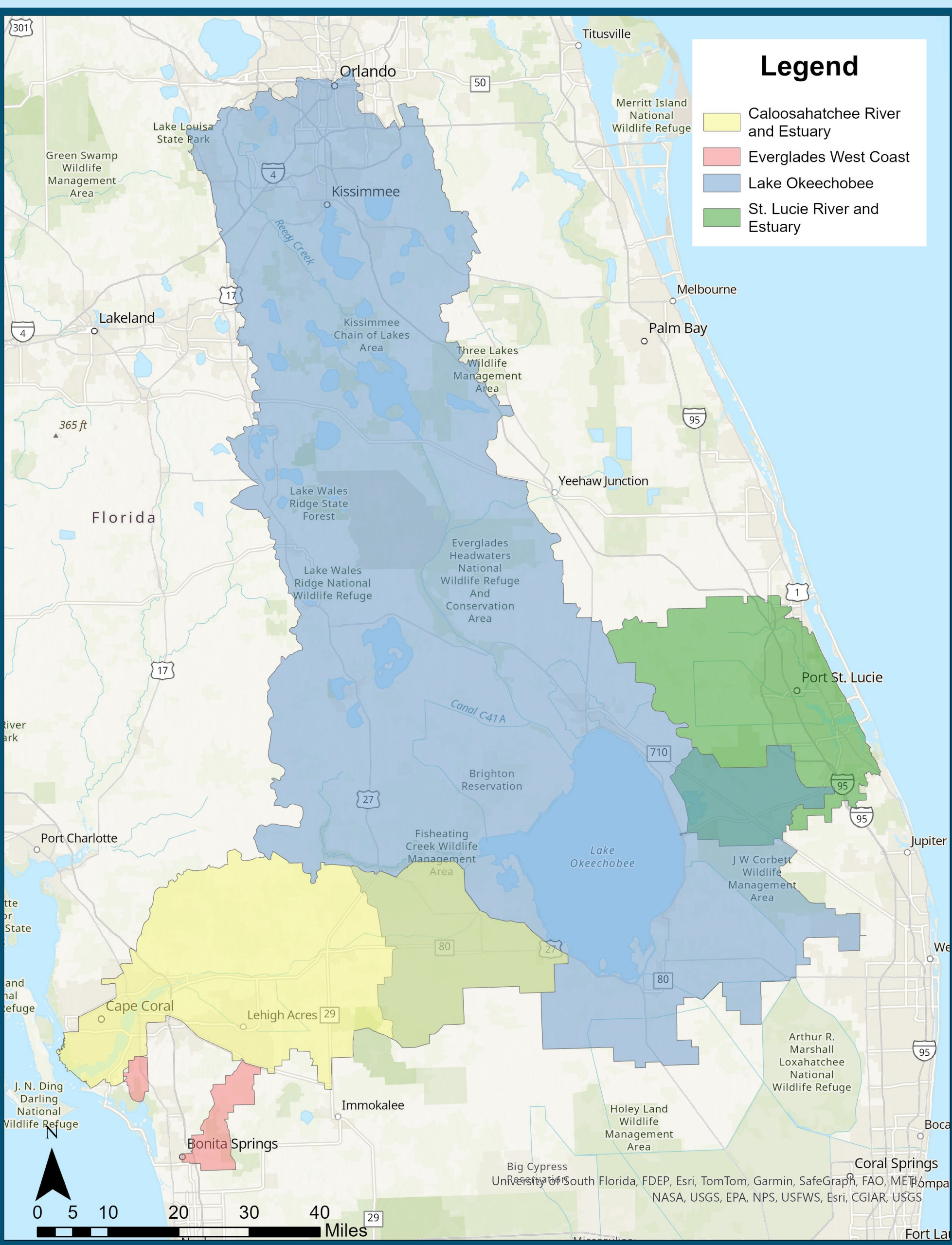
House Bill 1379 (2023)

- Requires BMAPs be assessed and updated every five years as needed to include implementation milestones and other requirements.
- Requires a list of projects and strategies that will achieve the five-year implementation milestones to meet TMDLs, as well as agricultural cooperative regional water quality improvement elements.
- Requires facilities discharging to a waterbody impaired for nutrients or subject to a BMAP or reasonable assurance plan (RAP) area to upgrade to advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) within 10 years.
- Requires applicants for new septic systems serving lots of 1 acre or less within BMAPs and RAPs must connect to central sewer if available, or if unavailable, to install an enhanced nutrient-reducing system or other wastewater system that achieves 65% reduction.
- Requires local governments to include BMAP projects in their comprehensive plans so these projects can be prioritized to achieve restoration benefits.
- Expands grant opportunities to accelerate project implementation.

House Bill 1557 (2024)

- Requires advanced treatment of reclaimed water within BMAPs.
- Requires facilities (including private) to provide information to local entities developing domestic wastewater treatment plans and OSTDS remediation plans within BMAP or other restoration areas.

South Florida BMAPs



BMAP Update Process

What is a Basin Management Action Plan?

- A BMAP is a framework for water quality restoration that contains a comprehensive set of solutions to achieve the pollutant reductions established by a TMDL.
- A BMAP is developed with local stakeholders and relies on local input and commitment for successful implementation.
- BMAPs are adopted by Secretarial Order and are legally enforceable.
- BMAPs use an adaptive management approach that allows for incremental load reductions through the implementation of projects and management strategies, while simultaneously monitoring and conducting studies to better understand the water quality and hydrologic dynamics.

Key Elements of a BMAP:

- TMDL(s) being addressed. These are the restoration targets.
- Physical description of the waterbody and contributing area.
- Description of the monitoring network and water quality.
- Identification of pollutant sources.
- Identification of responsible stakeholders.
- List of projects and strategies to reduce loading.
- Applicable legal requirements.

